

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. information retrieval system comprising:
5 a base station having stored information;
wireless communication links between said base station and one or more display stations;
speech recognition circuits at each of said display stations; and
control means such that said system will respond to a user's voice command by retrieving
requested information from said base station and displaying it on said display station.
- 10 2. The information retrieval system of claim 1 wherein said wireless communication links
are bi-directional channelized links that can operate simultaneously without interfering with one
another.
3. The information retrieval system of claim 1 wherein said retrieved information includes
both visual and aural information.
- 15 4. The information retrieval system of claim 1 and including the ability to authenticate users
by their voice signature, and further to withhold the display of information if a user is not
authenticated.
5. The information retrieval system of claim 1 and including information that is received
and relayed to said display stations via said base station, said relayed information including
20 broadcast information and information available on external networks.
6. A display station having a wireless link to an information source comprising:
a flexible substrate having light emitting circuits imprinted thereon to form a flexible
display screen; and
electronic circuits mounted on said flexible substrate including speech recognition
25 circuits, display drivers, and a radio frequency transceiver to implement said wireless link.
7. The display station of claim 6 wherein said electronic circuits are contained in a box that
hangs below said display screen, causing it to hang straight.

8. The display station of claim 6, including means for winding up said flexible display screen.

9. The display station of claim 8 wherein said means for winding up includes a spring that winds up and stores energy as said display screen is extended from its stored position to an extended position, and can be activated to retract said display screen from said extended position to said stored position.

10. The display station of claim 6 wherein said electronic circuits also include the ability to drive sound-generating devices.

11. A method for retrieving visual information comprising the following steps:
providing a base station having stored information;
providing one or more display stations in wireless communication with said base station;
commanding one of said display stations by voice to request information; and
viewing said requested information on said commanded display station.

12. A method for retrieving visual information comprising the following steps:
providing a base station having stored information;
providing one or more display stations in wireless communication with said base station,
said display stations having retractable displays;
extending one of said retractable displays to an operating position;
commanding by voice said display station to request information;
viewing said requested information on said extended display; and,
retracting said extended display into said display station.

13. The method of claim 11 or 12 and including the step of listening to aural information provided by said base station and delivered at said display station.